

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the first paragraph on page 1 as follows:

The present invention relates to a tool for piercing nuts ~~according to the preamble to claim~~  
4.

Please amend the second paragraph on page 1 as follows:

Fig. 1 illustrates a prior art tool for piercing nuts which is adapted to fasten piercing nuts to metal sheet. This requires great accuracy for the nut or metal sheet so as to not to be damaged ~~damage the metal sheet~~ and for the nut to be safely permanently connected to the metal sheet. A condition for such accuracy is that the punch of the tool for piercing nuts bottoms with the correct pressure against the piercing nut, i.e., that the stroke of the punch is ~~cor-rectly~~ correctly set for the used piercing nut and the metal sheet in question. To achieve this accuracy within some tenths of a ~~millimetre~~ millimeter, spacers, or shims, are currently used for adjustment in the shown prior art tool for piercing nuts. The shims are arranged between an adjusting plate and the tool for piercing nuts which thus is moved in its entirety by means of the shims. This mode of operation is time consuming and still does not provide exact information about the pressure to which the piercing nut and the metal sheet are subjected. A negative effect on, for instance, the strength of the piercing nut owing to a punch pressure which after all is incorrect, thus cannot be excluded. Moreover, it is necessary to completely stop the use of the tool for piercing nuts during the actual adjustment, which causes expensive production standstill when the tool is included as one of a plurality of tools in a long press line.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 2 as follows:

According to the invention, this object is achieved by a tool for piercing nuts ~~according to~~

~~claim 1~~ that comprises a die part and a punch part and a piercing nut feeder incorporated into the punch part, and adapted to feed piercing nuts into a piercing nut holder in the punch part so that the nuts, when the punch part is pressed against the die part by a press, are to punch holes in and be attached to a metal sheet inserted between the punch part and the die part. A gas spring is arranged between the press and the punch part. The gas spring has at least one cylinder and a piston which is movably arranged in the cylinder and which is aligned with the press. The pressure in the cylinder is settable for adjusting the pressure exerted upon the piercing nut by the punch part.

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 2 as follows:

The invention will now be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 illustrates a prior art tool for piercing nuts;

Fig. 2 is a side view of a gas spring;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the gas spring;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the gas spring;

Fig. 5 is a side view of the gas spring mounted in a tool for piercing nuts according to the invention; and,

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the tool for piercing nuts according to the invention.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 3 as follows:

In the tool for piercing nuts according to the ~~in-vention~~ invention, the shims 1, mentioned by way of introduction, of the prior art tool for piercing nuts 2 in Fig. 1 are replaced by a gas spring 3. The gas spring is shown in more detail in Figs 2-4 and in its position of operation in a tool for

piercing nuts 4 according to the invention in Figs 5-6.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 3 as follows:

The gas spring 3 comprises, as will be seen, three pistons 5-7 which are movably arranged in a cylinder 8-10 each. The cylinders 8-10 are in a manner not illustrated in detail connected with each other (connected in series) to be able to be pressurised by a common source of ~~com-~~compressed air (not shown). This source of compressed air makes it possible to set in the cylinders 8-10 a pressure acting on the pistons 5-7 with a force that is suitable for the case of operation in question.

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 4 as follows:

The above-mentioned connection in series of a ~~plurality~~ plurality of cylinders 8-10 renders it possible to make the gas spring 3 elongate so that it well fits the tool for piercing nuts 4 as such and also a press line, in which the tool for piercing nuts 4 can be included as one among a large number of other tools and in which therefore the available space is extremely restricted.